

Podocarpus - Plant



Podocarpus are evergreen woody plants. They are generally trees but may also be shrubs. The trees can reach a height of 40 meters at their tallest. Some shrubby species have a decumbent growth habit. The primary branches form pseudo-whorls around the trunk. The bark can be scaly or fibrous and peeling with vertical strips. Terminal buds are distinctive with bud scales that are often imbricate and can be spreading

Rating: Not Rated Yet

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Sales price R 498

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Description

Description for Podocarpus

Suited to grow near ocean coasts because of their salt tolerance, podocarpus trees (*Podocarpus* spp.). Depending upon the specific variety, podocarpus grow best in U.S. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 8b through 11.

| Common name | Flower colours | Bloom time | Height | Difficulty |
|-------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| - | - | - | usually from 1 to 25 meters tall. | easy. |

Planting and care

You can plant podocarpus from seeds or from cuttings. While hardwood cuttings take root easily, podocarpus seeds can take up to six months to germinate. Soaking the seeds in saturated salt water for two days before planting them will improve the germination rate.

| Sunlight | Soil | Water | Temperature | Fertilizer |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Sunny, or partially sunny spot. | Fertile, well-drained soil. | Wait for the water to drain down through the soil completely. | Prefers temperatures between 61 and 68 degrees Fahrenheit (16.1 and 20 degrees Celsius). | These plants need additional iron and magnesium; iron is partially supplied by the Miracid. In addition, apply a dose of chelated iron twice yearly. To prevent magnesium deficiency, use 2-3 applications of Epsom Salts. |

Caring for Podocarpus

Pruning is necessary to get the side branches to grow. Pinch back new growth as necessary, and remove oversized needles. If a plant with bushier appearance is required, cut back all side branches by half. New growth will readily develop. Some form of light staking is advisable for the main stems of a potted plant.

Typical uses of Podocarpus

Special features:

Ornamental use: This plant makes a good hedge or screen, and can grow either indoors or outdoors.

References

<http://homeguides.sfgate.com/> <http://home.howstuffworks.com/>